

Birthplace Evidence

Use details about presidential birthplaces to explain Virginia's nickname.

VS.12 "The student will use history and social science skills to recognize why Virginia is known as the "Mother of Presidents.""

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the first time each Virginia-born president is named, from 1 to 8. Underline the words that explain why Virginia has its nickname.

Why Virginia Has a Presidential Nickname

- ① Virginia is called the "Mother of Presidents" because eight United States presidents were born in Virginia. George Washington was born in Westmoreland County. Thomas Jefferson was born in Albemarle County, and James Madison was born in what is now Port Conway. James Monroe was born in Westmoreland County. These four leaders helped guide the young nation during its early years.
- ② Washington became the first U.S. president in 1789. After he left office, John Adams served before Jefferson. Madison and Monroe later served as presidents. Virginia's connection did not end with the early republic. William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, and Zachary Taylor were also born in Virginia, even though each led the country at a different time.
- ③ In 1913, Woodrow Wilson became president. He had been born in Staunton, Virginia, making him the eighth president born in the state. The nickname does not mean that every president came from Virginia. It points to Virginia's unusually large number of presidential birthplaces. When you name the eight men and connect their birthplaces to Virginia, you can explain the nickname with evidence.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How many U.S. presidents were born in Virginia?

2 What fact connects the eight presidents named in the passage?

3 Which president served after George Washington and before Thomas Jefferson?

4 How does Woodrow Wilson's birthplace support the nickname "Mother of Presidents"?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences explaining why Virginia is called the "Mother of Presidents." Include the number of presidents born in Virginia, name at least three of them, and tell how their birthplaces are evidence for the nickname.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Number the first time each Virginia-born president is named, from 1 to 8. Underline the words that explain why Virginia has its nickname. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How many U.S. presidents were born in Virginia?	Eight presidents were born in Virginia.
2	What fact connects the eight presidents named in the passage?	All eight presidents were born in Virginia.
3	Which president served after George Washington and before Thomas Jefferson?	John Adams.
4	How does Woodrow Wilson's birthplace support the nickname "Mother of Presidents"?	Wilson was born in Staunton, Virginia, and he was the eighth president born in Virginia.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Virginia is called the Mother of Presidents because eight U.S. presidents were born there. George Washington, James Madison, and Woodrow Wilson were three of those presidents. Their Virginia birthplaces are evidence for the state's nickname.

Accept any three correctly named Virginia-born presidents from the passage. Student explanations should connect Virginia birthplaces and the total of eight presidents to the nickname.